

## ADVISORY BULLETIN: Remote Instruction for the 2021-22 School Year

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Updated: April 20, 2021. Originally Issued: April 1, 2021

The Charter School Institute has received a number of questions from CSI schools regarding the schools' obligation to provide remote instruction options for interested families during the 2021-22 school year. **The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify that it is CSI's expectation that schools will have no obligation to continue remote options for the 2021-22 school year.** While schools may continue to offer remote options for interested families in response to public health and safety measures related to COVID-19, such options will not be required by CDE or CSI during the upcoming academic year.

### CDE Guidance on Remote Learning Options

The Colorado Department of Education has released guidance regarding "[Remote Learning Options \(K-12\) for the 2021-2022 School Year as a result of COVID-19 Health Concerns.](#)" While all CSI Schools should read the full CDE guidance, we wanted to share current CSI expectations for schools based on the guidance as it would apply to CSI Schools:

- The use of remote learning flexibility is *optional* for the 2021-2022 school year in response to current public health and safety needs related to COVID-19.
- No school will be obligated to offer full-time remote learning that is not a part of its standard educational program. Schools must still address the requirements of any health care plans, IEPs, or Section 504 plans for students who may require home-bound instruction. Remote learning may also be needed in response to specific contact incidents consistent with COVID protocols.
- Remote learning flexibilities can be used to offer hybrid learning and temporary remote learning, provided that a portion of all remote classes provide some synchronous learning experiences and that students have access to live teacher/instructional support every instructional day. 100% remote learning may be offered to families who opt-in, but is not required even if there are families who would prefer it. CDE advises that the 2021-2022 school year will likely be "the last year CDE will offer these types of flexibilities." Schools should consider the long-term enrollment impacts on families currently taking advantage of offered flexibilities and communicate with those families to ensure they understand the temporary nature of these flexibilities.
- Remote learning flexibilities can only be used to extend or change a school's educational program in response to the current public health and safety situation. Any remote or online learning offering initiated under these flexibilities should not be expected to continue when the public health situation improves. Any changes to a school's educational program that are intended to continue long-term or are not specifically responsive to COVID-19 should follow the [CSI Charter Modification Request](#) process.

### Resources

Any questions can be directed to the CSI Legal & Policy team at [legalandpolicy\\_CSI@csi.state.co.us](mailto:legalandpolicy_CSI@csi.state.co.us).